Under Secretary-General of United Nations for Peace Keeping visited India on 10-11 January, 2005.

(b) No Sir, Mr. Guehenno did not seek any additional deployment or augmentation of India's contribution to UN Peace Keeping.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Assistance to Iraq

359. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received request from the Government of Iraq for assistance in its reconstruction efforts particularly in the field of construction, engineering, oil exploration, Information Technology, etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNALAFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The Government of Iraq has requested us for manpower training in various fields.

(b) Government has been assisting Iraq in the reconstruction work through development of its human resources by providing training in India to Iraqi officials in wide-ranging areas including diplomacy, infromation technology, industrial electronics and instrumentation, agro-industry, entrepreneurship development, management development, human resource planning and development, promotion of micro enterprises, industrial project preparation, etc.

Issuance of passports in Andhra Pradesh

360. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued in the Andhra Pradesh in 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) what steps are being taken to issue passports with more ease in this area;

(c) whether there is any possibility of opening new passport offices in the State; and

(d) the steps proposed to expand and increase the capacity of such passport offices in the State?